

# Carolyn McCarthy

## Veterans Accomplishments - 108<sup>th</sup> Congress

*CONGRESSWOMAN CAROLYN MCCARTHY BELIEVES AMERICA MUST LIVE UP TO THE RESPONSIBILITY OF PROVIDING THE RESOURCES NECESSARY TO CARE FOR OUR VETERANS.*

### LEGISLATION SPONSORED/CO-SPONSORED

- **H.R. 2816** – Requires the Secretary of Veterans Affairs in the management of health care services for veterans to place certain low-income veterans in a higher health-care priority category.
- **H.R. 270, Veterans Equal Treatment Act** – Require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to replace the current formula, Veterans Equitable Resource Allocation (VERA) for medical care to different geographic regions.
- **H.R. 294, Disabled Veterans** – Improve the automobile assistance program for disabled veterans.
- **H.R. 58, Keep Our Promise to America's Military Retirees Act** - Restore health care coverage to retired members of the uniformed services.
- **H.R. 1951, VA Medical Workforce Enhancement Act of 2003** - Improve patient care and working conditions at the Veterans Health Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs.
- **H.R. 1592, Military Survivors Equity Act of 2003** - Repeals the two-tier annuity computation system applicable to annuities for surviving spouses under the Survivor Benefit Plan for retired members of the Armed Forces so that there is no reduction in such an annuity when the beneficiary becomes 62 years of age.
- **H.R. 886, Compensation for survivors of former prisoners of war** – Payment to the survivors of former prisoners of war who dies on, or before, September 30, 1999 under the same conditions as those who die after that date..

- **H.R. 348, Prisoner of War Benefits Act of 2003** – Provide improved benefits for veterans who are former prisoners of war.
- **H.R. 476, United States Cadet Nurse Corps Equity Act of 2003** – A person who was a member of the U.S. Cadet Nurse Corps during WWII would be considered active military service for purposes of all laws administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs.
- **H.R. 1264, Department of Veterans Affairs Claims Backlog Reduction Act of 2003** – Requires funding to states to reduce the backlog of claims for benefits pending with the Department of Veterans Affairs.
- **H.R. 1935, Veterans Housing Fairness Act of 2003** – Allows the use of veterans' housing loan benefits to purchase stock or membership in a cooperative housing corporation.
- **H.R. 2808** - Prohibits the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from taking any action proposed under the Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services (CARES Clinics), unless he notified Congress of the intention to take such action.

## KEY LEGISLATION SPONSORED

- **H.J.Res 4, Desecration of Flag Resolution** – Amends the Constitution, authorizing the Congress to prohibit the physical desecration of the U.S. flag.
- **H.R. 303, Retired Pay Restoration Act of 2003 (Concurrent Receipt)** – Authorize full payment of both retirement pay and disability compensation.
- **H.R. 2318, Assured Funding for Veterans Health Care Act of 2003** – Provide an adequate level of funding for veterans health care.
- **H.R. 2569, Salute to Veterans and the Armed Forces Act of 2003** – Comprehensive package which includes: concurrent receipt, makes healthcare accessible and affordable, educational opportunities for those who serve and reduces the age benefits are received by spouses.

## KEY VOTES

- **H.J.RES 4, Desecration of Flag Resolution** - Yea
- **H.R. 2297, Veterans Benefits Act of 2003** – Yea

- **H.R. 2861, VA-HUD appropriations** – Yea
- **H.R. 2673, Omnibus bill** - Yea